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COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Maneuvers in Saxony-Anhalt

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[REDACTED] 25X1X PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE OF CONTENT see below

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A DATE PREPARED 9 December 1949

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

Early October 1949

1. a. Maneuvers of large tank, artillery and AAA units were conducted in the BURG (M 53/Y 81) - LOBURG (M 53/D 99) - ZERBST (M 52/D 98) - DESSAU (M 52/E 17) area. Troops were observed to be detained in WOLMIRSTEDT (M 53/Y 61) and STASSFURT (M 52/D 66). The maneuvers allegedly advanced toward HELMSTEDT (M 53/Y 20) as far as close to the zonal border. Numerous telephone lines were constructed in the direction of the Elbe River. Farmers in that area had been ordered to harvest their fields by 1 October 1949.

13 October 1949

2.



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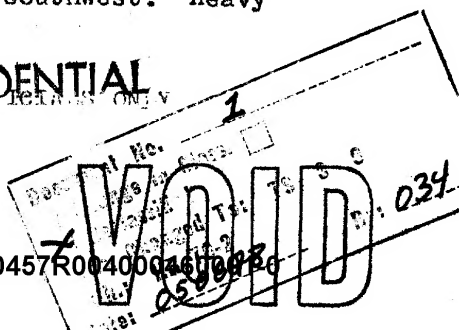
About twenty 100-mm guns, barrels about 10 feet long, eight guns with short and heavy barrels about 4 feet long, seven very broad personnel carriers occupied by about 40 troops each and four field kitchens were observed with the columns. T 34 tanks with their guns pointing west were seen on cross-roads. Several armored reconnaissance cars with dome-shaped turrets mounted by a gun on the right and a heavy machine gun on the left were parked near KLEIN LUEBARS. Armored reconnaissance cars of low build and armed with a heavy machine gun were observed near HEIDSEGEN on the same day.

Mid-October 1949

3. Tank, rocket launcher and infantry units left the GOMZKE (N 53/Z 10) - LUEBARS- LOBURG area heading southwest. Heavy

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fire had been heard from the mentioned area during the preceding days:

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Comment:

The report credibly confirms the final Third Shock Army maneuvers held during the first half of October 1949. From previous information by numerous sources it had been assumed that these maneuvers were conducted in the BURG-GENTHIN-BELZIG area. The maneuvers may have been extended as far as the ZERBST area. Troops of the 63rd Gds Mecz Regt/19th Gds Mecz Div were observed to entrain in GUETERGLUECK (northwest of ZERBST) on 12 October 1949. It is not considered credible that the maneuvers extended across the Elbe River farther to the west. No corresponding information has been supplied from that area, apart from one source alleging that the maneuvers extended as far as Letzling Heath and the zonal border (near HELMSTEDT).

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